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A Reply to Emesby.—EDITOR OF BOTANICAL GAZETTE: My genial critic Emesby, in your last issue, says "*Systematic Botany Nevertheless*," with which I am absolutely in accord, and in proof whereof quote from my previously published paper on *Modes of Teaching*, these words: "Systematic botany must, if it represents a strictly natural system, be founded on a nice appreciation of the entire organization, the life history of the individual and its relation in past and present time to allied plants. *This, then, is the highest, all embracing trend botanical thought can assume.*" Surely there is in that nothing but unqualified respect for systematic botany under whose ægis honored leaders have established a glorious record for our country.

Neither, my good Emesby, have I ventured to dream, much less to suggest that a final system had been attained. I have told how thorough a "*foundation*" Torrey, Gray, Engelmann and Watson have laid, but the superstructure is another question. I can well admit that systematic botany will boil and bubble into no one knows how many changing forms before it comes to the crystalline condition with its angles clear and sharp and its points absolutely fixed. There is ample work for generations of systematists before the high ideal I have above hinted at shall have been attained,

Mr. Darwin was named not to encourage any one in the idea that all could enter the harvest field and return with such a load of sheaves as he, but to show what the productiveness of the field was.

Now then, oh Emesby, friend, why did I write such radical things in that somewhat pointed paper? First, to make those who rest satisfied with the mere name dissatisfied and to lead them to a little fuller study of the plant itself. Second, to protest might and main against colleges that boast of their thorough teaching outfit allowing a student to go away with the idea that our science had no other side than the systematic. I have in a small way started that "*School of Botany*," (and I wish the teacher were more worthy of the kind words Emesby has written of him) and in it I start with microscopic botany, urging that my pupils see for themselves, draw for themselves and come to their own conclusions. After some months in such mental drill, I shall introduce them to systematic botany with the hope that their eyes will be the sharper and their reasoning power the keener for the ordeal that they have passed. Thus I hope to lay a foundation for a better knowledge of many plants and to beg efficiently for the "*highest, all embracing trend botanical thought can assume*," i. e., Systematic Botany. Very sincerely yours,

J. T. ROTHROCK.

The Botanist in Arizona.—This territory is fast becoming the favorite haunt of our more intrepid collectors, for its physical features, while most forbidding so far as comfort is concerned, favor the growth of very peculiar plants. The Lemmons, Pringle, Greene, Vasey, Jones' and James have all been there and nearly all have specimens of the wonderful flora for sale. But when, amidst the comforts of our herbaria, we revel in the riches their carefully prepared bundles bring